

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claim 2 is canceled.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Miggins at the September 27, 2005 personal interview. Applicants also appreciate the Office Action's acknowledgment of allowable subject matter in claim 2.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Simmons (U.S. Patent No. 3,560,240) in view of Thacker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,612,456). By this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 2. Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 and dependent claim 3 is moot.

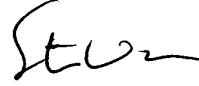
The Office Action rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in regard to the term "olefin-based". By this Amendment, claim 2 has been canceled and its allowable subject matter has been incorporated into claim 1. The subject matter of claim 2 has been modified to replace "olefin-based" with "polyolefin". Accordingly, this rejection is moot.

The Office Action indicates that Applicants' drawings are not currently contained in the Patent Office's electronic case file, and requests the submission of a new set of drawings. Accordingly, attached hereto is another copy of the drawings submitted on July 30, 2003 and resubmitted on February 3, 2004.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Steven W. Allis
Registration No. 50,532

JAO:SWA/jam

Attachment:

Two Drawing Sheets (Figures 1A-3)

Date: October 14, 2005

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--